IN THE CLAIMS

1.   (Currently Amended) A method, comprising:

enabling a standard notification rule to generate a first notification upon an

occurrence of a predetermined event to a first person in a hierarchy; and

enabling an advanced notification rule to preempt the standard notification rule

upon the occurrence.

2.   (Original) The method of claim 1 further comprising:

generating a second notification to a second person in the hierarchy.

3.   (Original) The method of claim 1 further comprising:

generating the first notification to the first person in the hierarchy; and

generating the second notification to a second person in the hierarchy.

4.   (Original) The method of claim 1 further comprising:

suspending the generating of the first notification.

5.   (Original) The method of claim 1 further comprising:

generating the first notification to the first person in the hierarchy; and

acknowledging the first notification.

6.   (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the advanced notification rule

includes a scope.

7.   (Original) The method of claim 6, where the scope of the advanced notification rule configured by at least one of the group consisting of a company, a satellite, a host assigned to a company, a service configured on a host for a company, a check type, a host state, a service state, a contact group, and a message pattern.

8.   (Original) The method of claim 1 where the advanced notification rule is enabled for a temporary amount of time.

9.   (Currently Amended) A machine readable medium having stored thereon instructions, which when executed by a processor, cause the processor to perform the following:
enabling a standard notification rule to generate a first notification upon an occurrence of a predetermined event to a first person in a hierarchy; and enabling an advanced notification rule to preempt the standard notification rule upon the occurrence.

10.   (Original) The machine readable medium of claim 9 further comprising:
generating a second notification to a second person in the hierarchy.

11.   (Original) The machine readable medium of claim 9 further comprising:
generating the first notification to the first person in the hierarchy; and generating the second notification to a second person in the hierarchy.

12.   (Original) The machine readable medium of claim 9 further comprising:
suspending the generating of the first notification.

13.   (Original) The machine readable medium of claim 9 further comprising:

generating the first notification to the first person in the hierarchy; and

acknowledging the first notification.

14.   (Original) The machine readable medium of claim 9, wherein the advanced

notification rule includes a scope.

15.   (Original) The machine readable medium of claim 16, where the scope of the

advanced notification rule configured by at least one of the group consisting of a

company, a satellite, a host assigned to a company, a service configured on a host

for a company, a check type, a host state, a service state, a contact group, and a

message pattern.

16.   (Original) The machine readable medium of claim 1 where the advanced

notification rule is enabled for a temporary amount of time.

17.   (Currently Amended) An apparatus, comprising:

means for enabling a standard notification rule to generate a first notification

upon an occurrence of a predetermined event to a first person in a hierarchy; and

means for enabling an advanced notification rule to preempt the standard

notification rule upon the occurrence.

18.   (Original) The apparatus of claim 17 further comprising:

means for generating a second notification to a second person in the hierarchy.

19.   (Original) The apparatus of claim 17 further comprising:

means for generating the first notification to the first person in the hierarchy; and

means for generating the second notification to a second person in the hierarchy.

20.   (Original) The apparatus of claim 17 further comprising:

means for suspending the generating of the first notification.

21.   (Original) The apparatus of claim 17 further comprising:

means for generating the first notification to the first person in the hierarchy; and

means for acknowledging the first notification.

22.   (Original) The apparatus of claim 17, wherein the advanced notification rule includes a scope.

23.   (Original) The apparatus of claim 22, where the scope of the advanced notification rule configured by at least one of the group consisting of a company, a satellite, a host assigned to a company, a service configured on a host for a company, a check type, a host state, a service state, a contact group, and a message pattern.

24.   (Original) The apparatus of claim 17 where the advanced notification rule is enabled for a temporary amount of time.

25.   (Currently Amended) An digital processing system, comprising:

a processor configured to enable a standard notification rule to generate a first notification upon an occurrence of a predetermined event to a first person in a

hierarchy, and to enable an advanced notification rule to preempt the standard notification rule upon the occurrence; and

a communications device coupled to the processor to transmit the notifications.

26. (Original) The digital processing system of claim 25 where the communications device to transmit the second notification to a second person in the hierarchy.

27. (Original) The digital processing system of claim 25 where the communications device transmits the first notification to the first person in the hierarchy and generates the second notification to a second person in the hierarchy.

28. (Original) The digital processing system of claim 25 where the processor suspends the generation of the first notification.

29. (Original) The digital processing system of claim 25 where the communications device transmits the first notification to the first person in the hierarchy and the processor acknowledges the first notification.